

**Kinross Charter Township
Planning Commission
Regular Meeting**

January 12, 2009

4884 W. Curtis Street

MEMBERS PRESENT

Brenda Case
Ron Munro
Leo Wiley
Herman Calkins
Rick Bernhardt
Dave Gaines

MEMBERS ABSENT

Leroy Schell

Also present: Don Sare, Supervisor Palma, and Judy Wright

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 PM by Chair Munro.

MOVED #1: by Bernhardt, second Gaines, to accept the minutes of December 8, 2008, and December 22, 2008, as presented. Motion carried.

MOVED #2: by Case, second by Calkins, to accept the agenda of December 8, 2008, with the following additions: Vice Chair position and budget. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Bernhardt distributed copies of course materials he recently received from a real estate continuing education course. The course addressed issues that the Commission has recently discussed such as airport zoning regulations, form base zoning, and tall structures. Additionally, he wanted to be sure the assessing department was aware that, if directed by the Township Board, they could use a one year sales study. This approach would acknowledge the impact of the recent housing downturn in a more immediate time frame.

Chair Munro informed the Commission that Leroy Schell has resigned his position on the Commission due to poor health.

MOVED #3: by Gaines, second by Calkins, to send a card of thanks to Leroy Schell for his service on the commission. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

Chair Munro distributed copies of an email that he had received from Kelly Drake at UPEA, in which she states that she hopes to have the draft plan done by the end of January. She asks if they could be put on the February 9th agenda to receive comments on the draft. Bernhardt suggested that the Commission schedule UPEA to be at the

March 9th meeting so that the members would have a month to review the draft plan. After much discussion about costs that may be involved in having UPEA at additional meetings and what the Township has paid their firm thus far the following motion was offered.

MOVED #4: by Gaines, second by Wiley, to request of the Finance Committee that all future invoices from UPEA be brought to the Planning Commission before payment is approved. Motion carried.

The bylaws of the DPW Advisory Committee were reviewed. Mr. Sare and Supervisor Palma discussed the listing provided by Superintendent Perkins of the projects planned for the near future. These projects are actually maintenance of existing sewer and water systems. With no expansion of the systems planned at this point, the Commission need not include anything in the Master Plan. If and when access roads are constructed, the Superintendent would advise the Commission of any advance planning needs. The Advisory Committee and Superintendent Perkins are working on five and ten year plans.

MOVED #5: by Gaines, second by Calkins to accept the DPW Advisory Committee's bylaws with the changes approved at their November 13, 2008 meeting. Motion carried.

There was considerable discussion on the matter of permitting the use of portable signs within the Township. The members are concerned that non-profit entities are being allowed to do something that for profit businesses are not allowed to do. In order to allow this the Sign Ordinance #1.128 would need to be amended.

MOVED #6: by Gaines, second by Calkins, to table the issue of portable signs until the next meeting. Motion carried.

Wiley informed the Commission that he did not write a letter to Rep. McDowell about the truck route regulation changes that had been proposed because the legislation had been dramatically changed and passed before he would have been able to draft a letter. The legislation that was passed does not affect the Township's authority to establish truck routes with an ordinance. It was suggested that a copy of the proposed ordinance should be sent to the Township Board and ask if the Commission should proceed any further.

Representatives from Carr Farms were not able attend this meeting to present the business side of the Outdoor Wood Burning Appliances issue. Members will attempt to locate someone to provide this information to the Commission before any further action is taken on development of an ordinance.

MOVED #7: by Bernhardt, second by Wiley, to table the wood smoke ordinance until a representative from the business community is able to present their side of the issue. Motion carried.

Because Case is now a Trustee, and the Township Board's representative to the Planning Commission, it is necessary to replace her as Vice Chair of the Commission.

MOVED #8: by Gaines, second by Case, to appoint Calkins as Vice Chair. Motion carried.

There was a short discussion regarding the amending of the budget in an ongoing manner. Munro intends to discuss his concerns with the Township Supervisor and Accountant.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Next meeting is February 9, 2009, at 6:30 PM.

Leo Wiley, Secretary

Minutes prepared by Judy Wright